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PRIVATE LAND HUNTING INFORMATION PACKET 2019



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PRIVATE LAND HUNTING ON BIG TIMBER RANCHES

Absaroka-Beartooth Outfitters is lucky enough to headquarter in Big Timber, Montana with some unique ranches just minutes away. Local landowners of these properties have been gracious enough to allow us the opportunity to offer our hunters and anglers access to some very special hunting and fishing areas. One such ranch is 20,000 acres of rolling hills just twenty minutes north of Big Timber in the foothills of the mountains. Though this is a special permit area for elk, if you are lucky enough to draw a permit, there are opportunities for trophy bulls. Of the eight Big Timber ranches we currently hunt only two require a special permit for elk. The remaining Big Timber Ranches are hunted with a general elk or deer license. All antelope hunts require a special permit. Our ranch hunts are fully guided, spot and stalk hunts. We use 4x4 vehicles to access the ranches we hunt. Accommodations include a comfortable lodge in Big Timber with all meals provided.

*A plus for our private land hunters is our ability to move from ranch to ranch during the hunt to provide them with the best possible hunting experience.

PRIVATE LAND ARCHERY HUNTS

ARCHERY ELK/DEER COMBO HUNT: \$5700 per hunter 2x1

1X1 HUNT: \$7200

Lodging and meals included.

4-6 hunters, 7 days (arrival day, 5 days hunting, departure day).

Hunt Dates:

Hunt #1 Sept 6-12

Hunt #2 Sept 14-20

Hunt #3 Sept 22-28

Hunt #4 Sept 29-Oct 5

Hunt #5 Oct 6-12

Archery Special Permit Areas for Elk and Antelope

If you want to apply for one of our special permit areas please check the draw area with us before applying. Better non-resident draw success in 900-20.

Elk either-sex Archery Only Season: 900-20 Elk Cow Archery Season Only: 005-00

Antelope ArchEquip Only: 900-20 Antelope Archery Only: 570-20, 340-20, 510-20

Archery Season Dates:

Archery Only Season Dates for Elk/Deer: September 7 - October 14 *

Archery Season Dates for Antelope: September 7 - October 12 *

900 Series Dates for Antelope: August 15 - November 10 *

*Season dates subject to change due to MFWP release of 2019 Hunting Information in early February.



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PRIVATE LAND RIFLE HUNTS

RIFLE ELK HUNT: \$5700 per hunter 2x1

**RIFLE COMBINATION ELK/DEER HUNT: \$6700 per hunter 2x1
Only mature deer will be allowed to be harvested**

RIFLE DEER HUNT: \$3500 per hunter 2x1

Hunts Include: lodging and meals
4-6 hunters, 7 days (arrival day, 5 days hunting, departure day)

HUNT DATES:

**Hunt #1 Oct 25-31 Hunt # 2 Nov 1-7 Hunt # 3 Nov 8-14
Hunt #4 Nov 15-21 Hunt # 5 Nov 22-28**

Most of our ranches only require a General License to hunt elk and deer. However, we do have a couple of ranches that require a special elk permit to hunt. We suggest when you apply for your General License you also apply for an elk permit for the areas listed below.

Elk Special Permit Areas for Rifle: Elk either-sex Rifle: 570-20 & 580-22

**Rifle Season Dates for Elk/Deer: October 26–December 1
(*Season dates subject to change due to MFWP release of 2019 Hunting Information in early February)**

ANTELOPE HUNT: \$2500 per hunter 2x1 (Requires Special Permit)

Hunts Include: lodging and meals
4-6 hunters, 4 days (arrival, hunting 3 days, departing after the last day of hunting)

HUNT DATES: To be determined with Outfitter

Antelope Special Permit Areas for Rifle: 570-20, 510-20, 340-20

*Check the draw area with us before applying.

**Rifle Season Dates for Antelope: October 13–November 17*
(*Season dates subject to change due to MFWP release of 2019 Hunting Information in early February)**



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HUNTING ON THE DIVIDE RANCH

For the archery and rifle hunter focused on trophy elk, mule deer and whitetail deer, ABO has added a special trophy opportunity ranch that can be hunted with a general license. I have been guiding and outfitting for twenty years and the topography of the landscape of this ranch provides the most unique combination of land management, wildlife conservation and trophy hunting opportunity with a general tag that I have ever encountered. We use a combination of 4 wheelers, hiking and horses for this hunt.

ARCHERY SEASON

ELK HUNT: \$7500 1x1 per hunter \$6500 2x1

COMBO ELK/DEER HUNT: \$10,500/per hunter

DEER HUNT: \$4000/per hunter

4 Hunters Per Week – 7 days (arrival day, 5 days hunting, departure day)
Hunts include lodging and meals.

HUNT DATES:

Hunt #1 Sept 6-12

Hunt #2 Sept 22-28

Hunt #4 Sept 29-Oct 5

Hunt #4 Oct 6-12

This ranch is hunted with a general license. However, a portion of the ranch is a special permit area. The ranch provides plenty of great hunting without the special permit area. However, we encourage you to apply for the special permit unit along with your general license application. **Archery Special Permit Area – 900-20**

RIFLE SEASON

ELK HUNT: \$7500 per hunter

COMBO ELK/DEER HUNT: \$10,500/per hunter

DEER HUNT: \$4000/per hunter

2 Hunters Per Week – 7 days (arrival day, 5 days hunting, departure day)
Hunts include lodging and meals.

HUNT DATES:

Hunt #1 Oct 25-31

Hunt #2 Nov 1-7

Hunt #3 Nov 8-14

Hunt #4 Nov 15-21

Hunt #5 Nov 22-28

This ranch is hunted with a general license. However, a portion of the ranch is a special permit area. The ranch provides plenty of great hunting without the special permit area. However, we encourage you to apply for the special permit unit along with your general license application. **Rifle Special Permit Area - 580-21**



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TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

PRIVATE LAND HUNTING ON BIG TIMBER RANCHES

Plan to arrive in Big Timber the afternoon before your hunt begins and plan to depart the morning after your hunt ends. You will be staying in the ABO Lodge at ABO Headquarters. Check in time is 4:00 pm. Check out time is at 10:00 am.

Guests Driving: Big Timber is located off Interstate 90 between Bozeman and Billings. Bozeman to Big Timber is 60 miles, driving time 1 hour. Billings to Big Timber is 90 miles, driving time 1½ hours.

Guests Flying: **Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport** (BZN) and **Billings Logan International Airport** (BIL) are the two closest airports to Big Timber. The following airlines service Bozeman and Billings: Delta 1-800-325-1999, American 1-800-433-7300, United 1-800-864-8331, Alaska 1-800-252-7522

Most major rental car companies are available at either airport.

The service is usually very good into Bozeman and Billings. However, Bozeman is a college town, home to Montana State University, so make your reservations early. Check out **Montana Travel** (1-800-247-3538) or (info@mttravel.com) for some of the best air fares available. Remember, Montana is on Mountain Time so keep that in mind when making your travel arrangements.

If you plan to stay in Big Timber prior to or after your hunt we recommend the hotels below.

The Grand Hotel (www.thegrand-hotel.com) (406-932-4459) is a charming and beautifully renovated historical hotel in downtown Big Timber. The hotel provides a wonderful full breakfast but not before 8:00 am. It has a well-stocked vintage bar which serves lunch and dinner. But for those with a "grander" palette it sports a fabulous restaurant that serves delicious gourmet dinners. The dining room is very popular so be sure to **make a reservation**.

The Super 8 Motel (www.super8.com) (406-932-8888) has comfortable rooms with small refrigerators and serves a light breakfast. For a heartier breakfast, the Country Skillet is across the street and opens at 6:00 AM.

Not a hotel, but a great eatery, opening at 6:00 am, The Bakery is a delicious and convenient breakfast for the early riser with great coffee and tea and delicious lunches. It is located just a few doors down from The Grand Hotel on McLeod St.



PRIVATE LAND HUNTING ON THE LAZY E-L RANCH

The Lazy E-L Ranch is a working cattle ranch nestled at the foot of the Absaroka Beartooth Wilderness. With five miles of river frontage, wildlife abounds in this spectacular, unspoiled setting. The ranch offers a high quality hunt with the opportunity to see many animals and to pick a respectable size elk or deer. Hunting reservations are made through Absaroka-Beartooth Outfitters but to view the Lazy E-L Ranch website go to www.lazyel.com.

When booking a rifle hunt with Absaroka Beartooth Outfitters on the Lazy E-L Ranch, your accommodations will be a lovely vacation lodge on the West Rosebud River. This spacious, charming retreat offers comfortable beds and full bathrooms. It is located just outside the Lazy EL Ranch with a lovely view of the river.

When booking an archery hunt with Absaroka Beartooth Outfitters on the Lazy E-L Ranch, your accommodations will be a lovely retreat located on the golf course in Red Lodge which is about twenty minutes from the ranch. This comfortable vacation home is fully equipped as well.

Clients staying at either retreat will enjoy eating in the dining room at The Grizzly Bar & Grill, located just outside the ranch. The Grizzly Bar & Grill, a favorite local spot and known for its' good food, is owned and operated by Patrick and Jennifer O'Shea. Patrick guides and Jennifer cooks for all ABO's Lazy EL Hunts. Hunters love Jenn's food!

ARCHERY SEASON ELK HUNT: \$5500 per hunter/Lodge

4 HUNTERS – 7 DAYS (arrival day, 5 days hunting, departure day) – 2X1 Hunt

HUNT DATES:

Hunt #1 **Sept 6-12** Hunt #2 **Sept 23-29**

RIFLE ELK/DEER COMBO HUNT: \$6500 per hunter/Lodge

6 HUNTERS - 7 DAYS (arrival day, 5 days hunting, departure day) – 2X1 Hunt

HUNT DATES:

Hunt #1 **Oct 25-31** Hunt # 2 **Nov 1-7**



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TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS PRIVATE LAND HUNTING LAZY E-L RANCH

Guests Driving: The ranch is located in Roscoe, MT.

Directions from Billings: Go west on Interstate 90 to Columbus; at Columbus go south on 78 to Roscoe. Driving time from Billings to the ranch is approximately 1.5 hours.

Directions from Bozeman: go east on Interstate 90 to Columbus; at Columbus go south on 78 to Roscoe. Driving time from Bozeman to the ranch is approximately 3.5 hours.

Plan to arrive by 3:00 pm the day before your hunt begins. You will **meet** your guides at the **Grizzly Bar & Grill located just before you get to the ranch.** This gives the guides time to get you settled and you time to site in your rifles or bows before dark.

Please check in with Patrick to confirm your arrival time.

Patrick O'Shea – cell 406-425-4333

Cell service is not very good at the ranch so two good emergency numbers are (406) 328-6789 (the Grizzly Bar & Grill) or 210-722-3817 (Sarah Mayo)

Guests Flying: Plan to fly into the **Billings Logan International Airport (BIL).**

Most major car rental agencies are available at the Billings airport.

The following airlines service Billings:

Delta 1-800-325-1999	American 1-800-433-7300
United 1-800-864-8331	Alaska 1-800-252-7522

The service is usually very good into Billings. However, there are limited flights into Montana, so make your reservations early. Check out **Montana Travel** (1-800-247-3538) or (info@mttravel.com) for some of the best available airfares. Remember, Billings is on Mountain Time so keep that in mind when making your travel arrangements.

Special Note to Hunters: I will not be guiding the Lazy EL Ranch hunts as I will be guiding ranch hunts in Big Timber during that time. However, I have carefully chosen Patrick O'Shea as your lead man. Patrick is an experienced guide who has hunted with me for many years. He knows every inch of the ranch! Patrick along with our other experienced guides Justin Hash and Bob Lile will do everything within their power to give you the best hunt possible.



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INFORMATION FOR ALL PRIVATE LAND RANCH HUNTERS

WHAT'S INCLUDED

The rates include:

Comfortable sleeping accommodations in lodge with bedding and towels.
All meals during your hunt
Field care of trophies
Experienced Guides

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

The rates do not include:

Transportation to Montana
Personal toiletries
Montana hunting licenses and permits
Hunting equip. including guns & ammo
Fishing Licenses
Fishing equipment including rods and flies
Transport of trophies to final destination
Any additional transportation cost
Gratuities for guides and cook

Gratuities

Clients often ask how much to tip their guide and cook. Standard in the industry is 10-20% of the cost of the trip, divided between your guide and cook at your discretion. For example, a \$5700 hunt @ 15% = \$850 tip (\$700-\$750 guide/\$150-\$100 cook). Gratuities are 100% discretionary. Always appreciated, they provide validation that our clients have had a good time and that we have done a good job.

DEPOSIT & PAYMENT POLICY

A partial deposit of \$1000 is required to book your hunt. The \$1000 partial deposit will be refunded if you do not draw a license. The drawing takes place in mid-April. The remainder of the deposit (50% of the cost of the hunt) is due when the draw is posted. The balance of the hunt is due 30 days prior to your hunt and is non-refundable. Hunts not fully paid by this date will be considered cancelled. We recommend Trip Cancellation Insurance. Montana Outfitters & Guides Association suggests Global Rescue travel insurance. <http://www.montanaoutfitters.org/travelersinsurance/>

We accept Credit Cards (Visa/MasterCard only) and Checks
Make Checks Payable to: Absaroka-Beartooth Outfitters, Inc.

All Hunt Prices include a \$50 fee for the MOGA Hunter/Angler Defense Fund
(Information on HADF can be found in the General Hunting Information Packet)



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HUNTING LICENSES AND PERMIT INFORMATION

(For more information on license & permit prices refer to the [General Hunting Information Packet](#) or go online to Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks, www.fwp.mt.gov.)

Resident and Non-resident hunters will need general licenses for elk and deer for most of the ranches we hunt. These include the Lazy EL Ranch and the majority of the Big Timber Ranches. However, we do have the opportunity to hunt a few special elk permit ranches around Big Timber. Hunters who want to hunt the special elk permit ranches will need to apply for a special elk permit for those areas. (Special Permit Areas listed under hunt dates in the Big Timber Ranches offerings.)

To apply for a special elk or deer permit you must first apply for a general elk/deer license through the draw. You can apply for both the general draw and a special permit at the same time. Remember most our private land ranches are hunted with a general elk/deer license, so you will still be able to hunt if you do not draw a special elk permit area.

Archers will need to purchase a bow & arrow license after the draw is posted in mid-April and they know they have drawn a license. If you purchase it at the same time you apply for the draw, then you will be purchasing two conservation licenses, one, with your bow & arrow license and another with your Big Game Combo License. A conservation license is included with the Big Game Combo license. This is not a deal breaker, but it will just cost you an extra ten dollars.

For more information about licensing and how to apply for the draw, see the General Hunting Information Packet.

Our ABO staff is ready to assist you with any questions you may have about hunting in Montana with our outfit. Our office will walk you through each aspect from booking, to licensing to arrival and everything inbetween.